

## **FY15 Q2 Quarterly Report**

**January – March 2015**

**SIMAMA / RISE**



*Marie-Jeannette Kahindo plants improved varieties of maize. She has increased yield to feed her family, and the rest she sells the surplus for income.*

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## **Executive Summary**

Mercy Corps, in partnership with Catholic Relief Services (CRS), is implementing the five-year SIMAMA/RISE program, aimed at ensuring that vulnerable households and communities in North Kivu build and sustain their food security. The program focuses on improving agricultural production, controlling and eradicating crop disease, increasing household incomes, and preventing childhood malnutrition. Activities specifically address the challenges that vulnerable households face regarding food availability, access, and utilization. SIMAMA aims to build communities' resilience to shocks by introducing and encouraging the adoption of sustainable household coping mechanisms, while being able to engage more efficiently in market activities. The program includes a substantial focus on good governance to ensure that the results achieved are sustainable. This report presents the achievements and challenges during Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15), Quarter 2.

Of note during the reporting period, Mercy Corps and CRS merged SIMAMA's management into the Mercy Corps office in Goma to foster communication, coordination and decision making. The SO1 agriculture component is now fully integrated between the two agencies, which greatly assist the sustainability of the SO2 Nutrition component. The program wishes as well to report the good integration of the SO3 Governance component with the two others SOs. The Governance Team provided training to 16 SO1 associations and three CODESA (Comité de Santé) partnering with SO2.

### **Security**

The security situation has been deteriorating in Birambizo (Rutshuru territory) since December of 2014. This corresponds to the period when both FARDC and FDLR troops moved away from Birambizo; those two forces used to protect Birambizo/Katwe before this period, their phasing out of the area offered to criminals the opportunity to occupy and rule the area in impunity.

In March 15, a couple of days following the visit of the COP in Katwe, a group of armed men with military uniforms entered the Mercy Corps base during the night to look for the "managers." They did not find high value items at the base but stole a few radio handsets and one laptop.

Other incidents occurred during the period in Rutshuru territory. For the first time in many years, an international humanitarian worker was kidnapped during the period. The UN system is now targeted with recent aggressions against agents from OIM, OCHA, UN-MAG. Three Monusco staff were kidnapped end of April 15 only 30 kilometers far away from Goma. The Governor of North Kivu, Mr Julien Paluku, reported the presence of Rwandese soldiers in the Rutshuru territory.

The situation remains stable in the program areas in the Butembo areas.

### **Strategic Objective 1: Agriculture**

Overall, and despite the prevailing security issues, the program accomplished a lot during the period, which coincided with the rainy (planting) season. Activities implemented under the Strategic Objective 1 (SO1) Agriculture component focused on the training of farmers grouped

within the FFS (192 CEP in Birambizo and 120 in Butembo for vegetable gardening). 7,200 farmers increased their skills in the areas of land preparation and planting. They were also exposed to new varieties of seeds with potential to increase their yields and the quality of their products. Considering that these 212 CEP were recently created (beginning in October 2014), SIMAMA will renew its support to these CEP starting from July 15, 2015.

Progress was made as well in the initiative to protect crops against BXW and cassava mosaic disease. Fifty banana FFS are providing healthy suckers (15,000) that are to be disseminated to small holder farmers. Seventeen hectares of healthy cassava cuttings will be harvested in May of 2015 and will be distributed to 300 farmers.

Regarding activities around value chain development, the program invested in potato, onion and bean seeds that were distributed to seed multipliers selected by SIMAMA during FY15 Q1. These base seeds will be harvested in July 2015 and will be then replanted to support the production of a second generation of seeds that will be available on the market and ready for use for farmers in large quantities in February of 2016. The program provides technical support on agribusiness plans to seeds multipliers to ensure they produce high quality seeds certified by the Congolese authorities and create profit. During the period, 4ha of potato seeds were planted in 10 multiplication fields in Butembo. 10 ha of bean seeds were planted in Birambizo and Butembo in multiplication fields.

Additionally, SIMAMA staff were trained on value chain development during the quarter under review. Four staff attended a TOPS training in Bukavu on February 2015, and a team of four field agronomists attended a TOPS permagarden training in Minova.

Finally, VSLA groups are performing very well, with 143 groups formed in Birambizo and 120 in Butembo. 6,947 individuals joined these groups and are currently receiving the training on the sixth and last module aimed at building capacity in entrepreneurship.

## Strategic Objective 2: Nutrition

The period was marked by a decrease of PM2A beneficiaries attending the PM2A distributions. The program recorded a 40% decrease during the quarter. The table below presents the actual number of beneficiaries present at distribution sites compared to the projections:

Site	Jan-15			Feb-15			Mar-15		
	listed	served	%	listed	served	%	listed	served	%
TOTALS	27,284	18,161	67%	27,008	15,758	58%	25,972	15,582	60%

During the quarter, CRS organized information sessions with beneficiaries and authorities to explain them the ICT4D system and build interest; however, the attendance rate did not increase. The M&E Departments of Mercy Corps and CRS conducted a post distribution monitoring exercise in communities in early April to understand the reasons for the poor attendance at distributions. At the time of this report, the results are not yet available, but we will inform USAID/FFP when we have a better understanding of the reasons for the decrease in PM2A beneficiaries attending distributions.

During the reporting period, community activities aiming at increasing the utilization of health facilities by mothers and other caretakers of children and improving community knowledge on good health and nutrition practices are ongoing. Support to mother leaders and RECO is provided to prepare staff for phasing out of the intervention areas.

Focus group results and testimony of PM2A mothers reflected interest in the topics covered (such as diversifying the types of food being consumed) and an appreciation for the culinary demonstrations which were made to the groups.

The local CSB initiative is currently ongoing. Soy seeds were distributed to 2,514 households in Butembo and Birambizo; however, the production did not meet expectations due to the minimal adaptation of the seeds to the local climate – in fact, we’ve found that they’ll need to plant more to meet household needs. The good thing is that communities adopted soy and that more appropriate soy seeds are available in Butembo. The SIMAMA M&E team is currently conducting a post distribution monitoring exercise to evaluate the soy bean production and provide recommendations.

### **Strategic Objective 3: Governance**

A central element of the governance component of the SIMAMA program is to support communities to create their own local development plans. During this quarter, 29 communities were provided support to develop these plans. Local Development Committees also implemented community projects with their own resources; the SIMAMA M&E team reported that at least nine communities in Butembo and Birambizo implemented programs during the quarter. These projects included: roads and bridge construction, creation of a fish pond, construction of a health center, and development of two community radio programs.

Forty-four FFA projects are currently ongoing in Birambizo, among which 33 road rehabilitation projects, six fish ponds and five tree nurseries. SIMAMA also built the capacity of 29 local maintenance committees. The cooperation is now functioning with DVDA (the branch of Ministry of Agriculture in charge of maintenance of the feeder roads). A new MOU is under preparation with SENAQUA (Service National d’Aquaculture) to involve the government in the design and engineering of the water systems. Fifteen additional community projects selected in the local development plans will be initiated during the next quarter.

Three roads rehabilitation projects are currently suspended at the request of local communities (affiliated FDLR), who expressed concern that the Congolese armed forces might use the roads to fight against them.

Seventeen Disaster Risk Reduction Committees have begun early operations in Birambizo. Three-hundred and fifty members of these committees received capacity building during the period on the subjects of Early Warning Systems and Disaster Risk Reduction.

### **Gender**

During the reporting period, the program conducted trainings for Gender Focal Points on positive masculinity and female leadership. As planned in the strategy, the Gender Focal Points received two ToT sessions that follow the general gender training. The sessions on positive masculinity and female leadership were co-planned and facilitated by two national NGOs with proven experience in the respective domains. The selection of the two NGOs was based on the recommendations given by the Cluster Protection and the SGBV Working Group, and it

followed a competitive process. Manuals and visual material were produced to ensure a good understanding by participants to the sessions in the field.

It is worth noticing that all the persons targeted by the Gender Focal Points have taken the commitment to replicate the training with their groups of reference (e.g. AV are going to train the VSLA members, the representatives of female organizations are going to share what learnt with the other organizations' members, etc). The restitution plan is monitored by the Gender Focal Points in the field.

## Commodity Management

During the reporting period, the Mercy Corps Food Commodity Manager and his Assistant attended a Mercy Corps food commodity management training in Lira, Uganda.

Also, SIMAMA got from FFP a conditional approval for its Fumigation PERSUAP to allow the fumigation of food commodities in compliance with relevant USAID regulations. SIMAMA responded to USAID queries and hope to have its PERSUAP approved.

Local transport of food commodities throughout North Kivu is still a challenge due to the limited capacity of private transporters and limited infrastructure, especially during the rainy season. To further improve food commodity dispatch, the program contracted a third transporter. This helps as well to reduce a bit the rate per MT.

Finally, as a consequence of the investigations that took place in the PM2A database, the requirement of CSB has been reduced. With support from FFP, the Program is in the process of transferring 800 MT of CSB to WFP-Uganda.

**Commodities Received:** Between January and March 2015, the Program received from the port of Dar Es Salaam a total of **1093.9 MT** of food commodities comprising of **866.97MT** of corn soya blend, **28.40MT** of cornmeal, **79.83MT** of vegetable oil and **118.70MT** of yellow split peas. This tonnage was part of the commodities for direct distribution which was called forward by the Program in Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 of FY14. The Mercy Corps Food Commodity Manager travelled to the port of Dar Es Salaam to oversee and coordinate the commodity discharge process along with Bollore Africa Logistics (Mercy Corps' contracted inland freight forwarder) and Intertek (Mercy Corps' contracted discharge surveyor).

**Commodities distributed:** SIMAMA conducted FFA distributions during the quarter and continued with PM2A distributions in all of the 28 distribution sites. FFW direct distributions will decrease as the program will be ending and PM2A distribution have already been decreasing due the beneficiary caseload review.

### Direct distribution commodity stocks available in country during the quarter.

Period	Corn Meal (MT)	Yellow Split Peas (MT)	Corn Soy Blend (MT)	Vegetable Oil (MT)	Total (MT)
Jan-15	536.57	164.198	1577.969	204.436	2483.173
Feb-15	393.35	121.218	1,480.02	184.374	2178.965

Mar-15	333.15	103.155	2,212.53	249.881	2898.713
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**Total number of PM2A beneficiaries served and commodities distributed during the quarter.**

Period	Pregnant women and lactating mothers	Children under 2	Total beneficiaires served	Corn soy blend (MT)	Vegetable oil (MT)	Total (MT)
Jan-15	4,065	14,096	<b>18,161</b>	114.838	10.896	125.734
Feb-15	2,423	13,335	<b>15,758</b>	98.182	9.453	107.635
Mar-15	1,615	14,807	<b>16,422</b>	100.954	9.853	110.807
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>313.974</b>	<b>30.202</b>	<b>344.176</b>

**Total Food for Assets beneficiaries served and commodities distributed during the quarter.**

Period	Households reached	Vegetable oil (MT)	Split yellow peas (MT)	Cornmeal (MT)	Total (MT)
Jan-15	5973	20.226	80.884	269.76	<b>6343.87</b>
Feb-15	3555	10.767	42.98	153.22	<b>3761.967</b>
Mar-15	1305	4.522	18.058	60.2	<b>1387.78</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>35.515</b>	<b>141.922</b>	<b>483.18</b>	<b>11493.617</b>

27 cartons of Vegetable oil and 9 bags of CSB have been reported as excess food found after PM2A distributions, due to incorrect scooping. To improve the accuracy of the ration distributed, new scoops are now in use and as shown in the table below, discrepancies are now better controlled.

**Total Food reported as excess from PM2A distribution sites.**

Period	Corn soy blend		Vegetable oil	
	kg	bags of 25	kg	cartons of 22.045 kg
Jan-15	-	-	363	16
Feb-15	237	9	181	8
Mar-15	-	-	50	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>27</b>

## Annex1 : Progress vs. Targets by SO

Description of Activities	Achievement			Quantitative and Qualitative
	Achieved	On-Going	No	Description
<b>SO1: Smallholder farming households in target areas have increased and diversified production and profit</b>				
<b>IR 1.1: Smallholder farming households adopt integrated and sustainable farming practices</b>				
1.1.1.1 Establish demonstration fields and test sites for seed multiplication.	X			15.68 ha of bio-fortified beans seed for multiplication provided by INERA Mulungu were planted by 20 producers/multipliers (including 10.3 ha in Birambizo and 5.38 ha Butembo). In addition, SIMAMA installed 8 ha of secondary multiplication site of maize seeds (5 ha in Birambizo, 2,5 ha at Tongo and 0,5 ha at Kalunguta..
		X		In Birambizo, 1.92 ha of vegetable nurseries (onion, carrot, cabbage) have been installed in 192 CEP (1 are by CEP). In Butembo, 2.78 ha of vegetable nurseries (white onion, red onion, carrot, cabbage and eggplant) were installed by 96 CEP out 120 CEP planned. Mercy Corps.  Two banana FFS group set up multiplication site (0.5 ha in Birambizo and 0.75 ha at Tongo (health Zone of Bambo) of healthy banana suckers..  1.25 ha of multiplication of healthy banana suckers was installed in the ZS Birambizo by the members of an FFS. CRS
		X		9.5 ha of secondary multiplication of certified seeds of maize (7.5 in Birambizo health zone, 1 ha in the Kalunguta of Health Zone and 0.5 ha in the Musienene of Health Zone) were created. In May 2015, 1 additional hectare of secondary multiplication maize seeds will be installed in Musienene in collaboration with producer organizations and local maize multipliers. CRS
	X			In Masereka health area, 3.66 ha of potato seed multiplication fields were sown by 6 local producers/multipliers. Mercy Corps

		X	<p>CARITAS has installed 3 ha of tertiary multiplication of healthy cassava cuttings (1.3 ha in the Kalunguta health zone and 1.7 ha in the Musienene health zone). With the involvement of groups of local producers, 8 ha additional tertiary multiplication of healthy cassava cuttings (including Birambizo 7.25 to 0.75 ha Kalunguta) will be installed during the third quarter. CRS</p> <p>CEDERU installed a 1 ha secondary multiplication site of healthy cassava cuttings in Kalunguta.</p>
	X		<p>2,514 PM2A beneficiaries received 5,028 kg of soy seeds (2 kg each) and 1,272 of them received also 1,272 kg of certified maize seeds (1 kg each).</p> <p>Caritas conducted 2 Quality Management Protocol (QMP) exercises in Birambizo to monitor the correct growth and proper cropping practices of the cassava mosaic disease tolerant varieties.</p>
1.1.1.2 Facilitate the establishment of seed bulking plots linked to existing schemes, research organizations and seed companies		X	<p>CRS conducted one exchange visit with CAPSA (Centre d'adaptation et de production des semences améliorées) to learn about how to conduct potato seed multiplication and also to strengthen the relationship with government structure.</p>
		X	<p>Caritas and CEDERU disseminated 57 100 linear meters of Cassava Mosaic Disease tolerant varieties to 2,702 households Each household received at least 20 linear meters which can cover about 1 are of field.</p>
		X	<p>SIMAMA conducted an exchange visit with Vétérinaires sans Frontières (VSF) in Butembo to learn about rabbit rearing and develop synergies between programs.</p>
	X		<p>16,805 kg of G59 bean variety of certified seeds were produced by bean producers (households) in Birambizo households, thanks to original seeds received from INERA Mulungu and planted in December 2014. Mercy Corps</p>
	X		<p>SIMAMA installed 10 sensitization panels on community fight against Banana Xanthomonas Wilt (BXW) in Butare, Bambo, Kishishe, Kirima, Kibingu, Kibirizi, Kashalira, Mutanda, Singa and Lusogha Birambizo Health Zones.</p>

	X			SIMAMA installed 5 BXW sensitization panels in Musienene, Munoli and Kalunguta.
1.1.1.3 Conduct formative research and analyze barriers that affect men and women's adoption of improved agriculture practices of targeted farmers in project area			X	This activity is planned in collaboration with the BCC Department for the third quarter of 2015. Mercy Corps
1.1.1.4 Create or modify training material to address identified barriers to adoption of improved agricultural practices		X		SIMAMA continued close monitoring of PVS trials set up during the first quarter.
1.1.1.5 Train community-based technical focal points	X			In Birambizo, 48 Village Agricultural Agents (AVA), including 11 women and 37 men, 4 CARG representatives were trained on market gardening (onion, carrot, cabbage, eggplant), Integrated Pest Management and Soil Conservation. In the 3 health zones of Musienene, Masereka and Kalunguta 20 AVA (4 women and 16 men) and 2 representatives of CARG were trained on the preparation of liquid compost, solid and soil conservation. Mercy Corps
		X		20 focal points Munoli health areas, Ngeleza, Kalunguta and Kabasha received training on small livestock breeding techniques. Mercy Corps.
		X		1552 farmers (1039 men and 513 women) belonging to banana FFS groups were trained on the management and control of BXW in Birambizo, Kalunguta and Musienene.
1.1.1.6 Establish on-farm trials and community site demonstration for locally available crops that are resilient to local conditions in collaboration with research organizations		X		729 participants, (401 men and 328 women) in Birambizo, Bambu, Musienene and Kalunguta, were trained on how to set up and manage multiplication fields for cassava disease tolerant varieties.
1.1.1.7 Train male and female farmers on the use of new varieties and crop, disease and pest management techniques compatible with their farming practices		X		The 48 and 20 AVA respectively trained in Birambizo and Butembo on vegetable farming techniques and integrated pest management and soil conservation, trained up to 7,371 producer members of CEP, including 4,361 women and 3,010 men. Mercy Corps.
		X		368 participants (135 men and 233 women) were trained on how to multiply improved varieties of maize in Birambizo, Musienene and Kalunguta.

		X		SIMAMA trained 296 farmers (126 men and 170 women) on how to produce and multiply soy seeds in Birambizo and Tongo (Bambo)
		X		SIMAMA trained 662 farmers on how to produce and multiply soy seeds in Birambizo.
	X			SIMAMA conducted a training of trainers for government agronomists last year. This quarter, the agriculture team and local government agronomists conducted joint visits to monitor rehabilitated banana fields in Musienene and Kalunguta
1.1.1.8 Train female care givers (SO2 beneficiaries) in small livestock, Soya Beans and vegetable production to support nutritional needs and income diversification among SO2 and the most vulnerable participant households		X		SIMAMA visited Vétérinaires sans Frontières (VSF) in Butembo to learn about rabbit rearing and is in the process of purchasing 3,000 rabbits and 12,000 guinea pig to be distributed to PM2A households.
		X		The nutrition and agriculture teams collaborated to train 662 farmers receiving soy seeds on the value and the use of soy as food.
1.1.1.9 Integrate nutrition education within trainings of producers and extension services		X		2 training sessions on BXW were conducted in Beni and Lubero for government agents (territory-level inspectors and other agriculture teams).
1.1.1.10 Conduct open field days and input fairs for wider dissemination of extension message and for promotion of the input supply side of the market in the target areas		X		SIMAMA involved 5 chefs de groupement, 16 chefs de localité, and the agronomist of the chefferie in Bwito for the organization of a mobilization campaign to fight against BXW in Birambizo.
1.1.2.1 Conduct training of trainers for government extension officers on sustainable control of Banana Xanthomonas Wilt (BXW) and Cassava Mosaic Disease (CMD)		X		40 farmers and 2 agronomists were trained on QMP in Musienene and Kalunguta. James enverra le rapport de formation QMP. il dit qu'ils n'ont pas fait de training QMP
	X			2 PVS (with 6 disease tolerant varieties and 2 common varieties) were set up in collaboration with Caritas in Musienene and Kalunguta.  SIMAMA continues to monitor the 6 PVS trials previously installed in Birambizo(4) and at Tongo (2)  ICM were set up in Birambizo, Tongo ( Bambo), Kalunguta and Musienene.

1.1.2.2 Test new disease resistant varieties using trial systems under output 1.1.1 guided by participatory variety selection practices		X		<p>31 FFS in Birambizo continue mobilizing farmers who have BXW infested banana fields.</p> <p>60 farmers in Musienene and 60 in Kalunguta were trained on BXW jointly by SIMAMA staff and the Territory Agronomists. They are currently conducting activities to heal infested banana fields in their respective villages</p>
1.1.2.3 Train male and female farmers using the Farmer Field School Approach on Integrated Pest Management (IPM), the use of bio-pesticides and traditional disease and pest management practices		X		<p>Les 68 AVA formés dans les techniques de production maraîchères, dont 48 à Birambizo et 20 à Musienene, et 6 représentants des CRAG Kalunguta et Masereka, ont suivi des sessions supplémentaires sur la gestion intégrée de Pest à travers les extraits de végétaux localement disponibles, tels que les feuille de tabac et le piment. Mercy Corps.</p> <p>The 68 AVA trained in vegetable production techniques along with 6 representatives of CARG Kalunguta and Masereka followed additional sessions on Integrated Pest Management through extracts from locally available plants, such as tobacco leaf and chili. Mercy Corps.</p>
1.1.2.4 Train male and female farmers, based on Farmer Field School Approach and using local technical focal points, on Conservation Agriculture practices		X		<p>68 AVA, 42 producers and 2 territories agronomists were trained in conservation techniques and soil management and erosion control in the Birambizo health zones and in Musienene, Kalunguta and Masereka. Mercy Corps</p>
<b>IR 1.2 Male and female smallholder farmers and other targeted value chain actors improve their practices along the selected value chains</b>				
1.2.1.1 Conduct a detailed value chain analysis and market research for selected commodities	X			
1.2.1.2 Sensitize producers on new opportunities using profitability (Gross Margin) analyses.		X		<p>A Butembo, l'équipe de micro finance du projet poursuit la sensibilisation des 120 CEP d'oignons, 10 producteurs multiplicateurs de pomme de terre et 10 pour le haricot sur l'agriculture orientée vers le marché. Mercy Corps</p> <p>In Butembo, the micro finance project team leads the capacity building of 120 CEP, 10 potatoes producer/multipliers and 10 beans producers on agriculture market oriented. Mercy Corps</p>

1.2.1.3 Train producer groups, SO2 beneficiary households, and other selected market actors on improved post-harvest preparation and handling, storage and value-adding processes (including sorting, cleaning, chipping and drying) to maintain nutrient content and respond to market demand as identified in 1.2.1.1.			X	Introduced maize varieties have been adopted by PM2A Beneficiaries, soy is being introduced in areas covered by the project. During the third quarter, possible mixing formulas will be performed by the team SO2 to produce local porridge equivalent of CSB. CRS
1.2.2.1 Select and structure local associations to form gender equitable Producer Groups (PGs) and strengthen their governance			X	A Birambizo a training of trainers on positive masculinity for 33 AVA (8 women and 25 men) was organized. In turn, these individuals sensitized 4660 households (2883 women and 1777 men) on positive masculinity. Mercy Corps
1.2.2.2 Provide training opportunities to selected producer groups and VSLAs in improved business capacity (including financial skills) and governance (linkage to SO3)		X		Des formations sur l'entreprenariat sont cours et sont organisées par l'équipe de micro finance du projet, à Butembo, en faveur des 100 conseillers techniques de groupes VSLA. Mercy Corps.  Entrepreneurship trainings are on-going, organized by the VSLA team in Butembo in favor of 100 community technical agents. Mercy Corps.
<b>IR 1.3 Male and female smallholder farmers and other targeted value chain actors create an enabling business environment</b>				
1.3.1.1 Support Local Development Committees (LDCs) to identify priority infrastructure projects		X		In Birambizo, the 22 voluntary field agents (ATV) set up 52 new (Savings and Internal Lending Communities) SILC groups with a total of 1329 participants (954 women and 375 men).
1.3.1.2 Support the LDCs to implement sustainable priority and market-access supporting infrastructure actions through Food for Assets activities			X	Planned for Q3Y15 with SO3 and value chain actors
1.3.2.1 Develop a sustainable market information systems based on results of feasibility study		X		A meeting on the market information system was held by the Butembo SO1 Team Leader with the micro finance team. The action points are developed in the CIG constitution plan with the VC Manager of the project. Mercy Corps.
1.3.3.1 Facilitate the formation and development of Village Savings and Lending Groups (VSLA)				In health areas Musienene, Kalunguta and Masereka, 120 VSLA groups have been trained in entrepreneurship based techniques. A total of 1,118 members, including 188 men and 930 women, were trained on the 6 <sup>th</sup> VSAL module methodology (loans reimbursement) Mercy Corps

Description of Activities	Achievement			Quantitative and Qualitative Description
	Achieved	On-going	No	
SO2 Improved nutritional status among pregnant and lactating women and children under 5 in target areas				
IR 2.1: Pregnant and lactating women and caregivers of children under 5 increase their utilization of counseling and health services in accordance with GODRC standards.				
Output 2.1.1.: Trained and equipped health providers deliver quality IMCI, pre- and post-natal services, and counseling on ENAs and hygiene				
2.1.1.1 Train health care providers and community volunteers in health and nutrition.			X	54 Health care providers will be trained on C-IMCI as trainers. It will be done in April-May since the MoH trainers were not available in Quarter 2.
2.1.1.2 Conduct refresher trainings for health care providers and community volunteers in health and nutrition.			X	54 health care providers will receive refresher training on ENA, PNV (pre-natal visits) and IMCI in May and June with support from the MoH agents.
2.1.1.3 Conduct joint supervision and quality monitoring visits with the government to health centers in project area.		X		6 joint supervisions conducted with the MoH Agents in 13 health centers within the 4 targeted health zones for MYAP.
2.1.1.4 Advocate to key stakeholders and project catchment areas to ensure adequate provision of medication and supplies			X	The team could not attend any Nutrition Cluster Meetings during the quarter because of the high focus on PM2A food distribution.
Output 2.1.2.: Pregnant and lactating women and caregivers of children under 5 improve knowledge, awareness, and perceptions of appropriate care-seeking behavior.				
2.1.2.1 Conduct formative research and analyze barriers that affect timely care seeking behaviors of population in project area.		X		Formative research has been conducted during the quarter on the following themes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 barrier analysis on food diversification and pregnant women’s diet conducted in 6 villages Lukanga, Kabasha, Munoli, Muhangi, Ngeleza, and Musienene (Butembo zone) in March,</li><li>Formative research on post-natal health-seeking behavior. This formative research was conducted through focus groups of “Mamans Leaders” (ML) in Kashalira health area in February.</li></ul>

2.1.2.2 Create or modify campaign materials to address identified barriers to timely care seeking behaviors			X	Will be done on May, now that the research has been conducted.
2.1.2.3 Implement SBCC campaign focusing on key messages on timely access and utilization of services, targeting men and women strategically.		X		In February and March, SIMAMA disseminated key project messages promoting 4 pre-natal visits and 1 post-natal visit within the area covered by 29 health centers in Birambizo/Bambu zones through 6 local broadcasting stations.
<b>Output 2.1.3.: Improved timely detection of moderate acute malnutrition among children under 5.</b>				
2.1.3.1 Provide tools and follow-up training to community volunteers monitoring of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)	X			During the quarter, RECOs (Relais Communautaires) detected 1,471 cases of MAM that they referred to appropriate health centers. 445 were treated through the government's nutrition program.
2.1.3.2 Establish accountability mechanisms for households to ensure implementation of government CMAM services	X			4 health centers in Bambu Health Zone joined the integrated management of MAM program owing to the support of Johanniter, an INGO working primarily on health. Most detected malnutrition cases were referred to those centers.
2.1.3.3 Monitor the quality of community volunteers and government's growth monitoring activities among children under 5			X	Not implemented yet. SIMAMA is collecting the information from the Health Zone because SIMAMA is not doing any Growth Monitoring activities. But the Health Zone compiles the monthly report every semester. Thus, we will have this information only on July 2015 to account for January-June 2015.
2.1.3.4 Advocate to key stakeholders in project catchment area to ensure adequate coverage of CMAM services			X	The team could not attend any Nutrition Cluster Meetings during the quarter because of the high focus on PM2A food distribution.
<b>IR2.2: Pregnant and lactating women and caregivers of children under 5 adopt key preventive nutrition and health behaviors.</b>				
<b>Output 2.2.1.: Pregnant and lactating women and caregivers of children under 5 improve knowledge of GODRC and locally-appropriate preventive practices for select maternal and child illnesses</b>				
2.2.1.1 Produce and promote use of fuel-efficient cooking stoves to reduce indoor			X	Scheduled for the next quarter in conjunction with SO1, through 29 ML.

air pollution contributing to Acute Respiratory Infections.				
2.2.1.2 Train communities in the construction and usage of low-cost appropriate household tools (such as tippy taps or drying racks for dishes) to reduce the risk of hygiene related diseases and contaminants		X		2,500 Tippy taps were set up in the following health areas : Butare, Kabizo and Nyanzale.
2.2.1.3 Train community volunteers in essential health and hygiene behaviors to encourage the uptake of positive health behaviors.		X		500 ML trained on “Tippy taps” and project staff monitored participant households on home visits.
2.2.1.4 RECOs promote the GoDRC’s key family health practices in the community		X		RECOs in Faraja, CBCE, Kabizo, Mushashabwe, Kamena, Rushege and Rushovu conducted 182 home visits to promote exclusive breastfeeding among other health practices.
<b>Output 2.2.2 : Pregnant and lactating women and caregivers of children under 5 improve knowledge of Essential Nutrition Actions</b>				
2.2.2.1 Conduct formative research and analyze barriers that affect the uptake of key ENAs of population in project area		X		Formative research has been conducted during the quarter on the following themes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 barrier analysis on food diversification and pregnant women’s diet conducted in 6 villages Lukanga, Kabasha, Munoli, Muhangi, Ngeleza, and Musienene (Butembo zone) in March, Formative research on post-natal health-seeking behavior. This formative research was conducted through focus groups of “Mamans Leaders” (ML) in Kashalira health area in February.</li> </ul>
2.2.2.2 Develop a SBCC campaign based on the results of the formative research			X	Will be done in the next quarter now that the research has been conducted (see 2.2.2.1).
2.2.2.3 Develop IEC materials for adoption of Essential Nutrition Actions			X	SIMAMA will use the Government tools, but they need to be translated into local language and then photocopied. This is planned for quarter 4.
2.2.2.4 Recruit a network of committed Mother Leaders to support the target	X			975 MLs/ “Papa Leaders” (PLs) recruited for Birambizo and Butembo areas.

population in adopting positive nutrition behaviors				
2.2.2.5 Train Mother Leaders in Essential Nutrition Actions to encourage the uptake of positive nutrition behaviors			X	The 975 ML/PL were already trained during Y3 (FY 2014). Refresher trainings are scheduled during quarter 3 and 4 of this year.
2.2.2.6 Form Mother Support Groups using a network of Mother Leaders to reinforce positive infant and young child feeding practices through group education		X		10 ANJE (Alimentation des Nourrissons et des Jeunes Enfants) support groups were set up in Kalunguta and Musienene.
2.2.2.7 Mother Leaders carry out targeted home visits using IEC support materials		X		11,504 home visits conducted by MLs/ PLs and SIMAMA nutrition agents during the quarter.
2.2.2.8 Pilot Father Leader and Father Support Groups to increase integration of men into family health and nutrition issues	X			127 PLs identified, recruited and trained.
<b>IR 2.3 Pregnant and lactating women and children under 5 consume a diet in accordance with national GODRC guidelines.</b>				
<b>Output 2.3.1.: USAID Title II PM2A rations distributed by the project are appropriately consumed by eligible pregnant and lactating women and children 6-23 months.</b>				
2.3.1.1 Distribution of PM2A ration commodities to eligible women and children	X			3 monthly food distributions conducted.
2.3.1.2 Monitor exclusive consumption of PM2A ration among eligible participants through post-monitoring distribution surveys	X			2 post-distribution monitorings (PDMs) after January and February PM2A distribution were been conducted by Mercy Corps M&E staff.
2.3.1.3 Conduct formative research to identify barriers and enablers to consumption of PM2A ration among eligible participants.			X	Will not be needed because there's no barrier to consume the PM2A commodities.
2.3.1.4 Develop and disseminate key messages to ensure participants understand the importance of consumption of PM2A ration exclusively by PLW and children 6-23 months		X		Since January, the project developed and implemented a communication plan to disseminate key messages before and after distribution.
<b>Output 2.3.2.: Pregnant and lactating women and caregivers of children under 5 access adequate, locally produced micronutrient-rich foods.</b>				
2.3.2.1 Community volunteers support household gardening to produce micronutrient-rich vegetables, legumes and grains through subsidies for seeds to PM2A participants, prioritizing households			X	Mercy Corps is in the process of purchasing seeds which will be planted during the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter.

with undernourished children. (Link to 1.1.1.7)				
2.3.2.2. Support rabbit and guinea pig breeding among women in households with pregnant and lactating women and children under five. (Link to 1.1.1.7)		X		Currently, 1,405 families in Butembo are raising guinea pigs. An additional 4,000 HHs with PLW/ CU5 will receive 12,000 guinea pigs in the next quarter.
2.3.2.3 Develop and disseminate key messages on the process of transforming locally produced corn and soy beans into “home-made” corn-soy blend			X	Soya was harvested at the end of the quarter, so all action related to locally-made CSB is planned for Q3.
<b>Output 2.3.3.: Pregnant and lactating women and caregivers of children under 5 know how to prepare micronutrient-rich foods.</b>				
2.3.3.1 Collect and promote locally appropriate recipes that meet the nutritional needs of pregnant and lactating women and young children		X		2 recipes were developed and promoted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enriched porridge using sorgho or maize with soya, banana and palm oil</li> <li>- Well balanced meal made from locally available food (vegetables, cereal flour, tubers, soya, and palm oil).</li> </ul>
2.3.3.2 Culinary demonstrations carried out by Mother Leaders to promote healthy foods for children 6-59 months, including “home-made” corn soy blend porridge made with commodities as well as locally grown maize and soy		X		SIMAMA’s MLs conducted 848 cooking demonstrations during the quarter.
2.3.3.3 Culinary demonstrations carried out with producer organizations to promote household consumption of diverse micronutrient-rich foods		X		82 cooking demonstrations during the quarter for farmers in Musienene and Kalunguta.

Description of Activities	Achievement			Quantitative and Qualitative Description
	Achieved	On-going	No	
SO3 - Strengthened community governance of food security in target areas				
IR 3.1: Local Leaders, Local Development Committees, civil society, and government service providers collaborate to maintain accountability and transparency in regards to community food security concerns				
3.1.1.1 Reconstitute the Local Development Committees (LDCs) in line with Decentralization Laws	X			NA for this period, all of LCDs reconstituted in Butembo and Birambizo

3.1.1.2 Train LDCs on decentralization and elaboration of Local Development Plans and inclusion of gender and vulnerable populations when prioritizing and designing projects.		X		In collaboration with the Ministry of Decentralization, two sessions training organized in Mutwanga and Masereka (Butembo): <b>69 participants</b> (LDC members and 30 Local authorities ) received training on "Decentralization, Local Planning, Role and responsibilities of CDC"
3.1.1.3 Support LDCs and other community structures in the development of local development plans (focused on sustainability of SO1 and SO2 priorities and on reduction risks to food security of natural or man-made disasters).	X			NA: Completed during the last period.
3.1.1.4 Support LDCs to implement and monitor FFW projects in accordance with the plans identified		X		<b>11</b> news Maintenance committees involving LDCs established in Birambizo (5 Mutanda, 05 Bambou, 01 Tongo). <b>19</b> Infrastructure maintenance Committees received training on Technical Road standard concerning road rehabilitation in partnership with DVDA (Division Provinciale de Voies de Desserte Agricole). In total, <b>190 Committee members</b> trained. -07 Maintenance committees (with 70 committees' members) supported on development of maintenance management plan.
3.1.1.5 Support the LDCs to hold tenders for association projects that address the food security action plans (which should address sustainability of SO1 and SO2 priorities) and/or the needs of women and youth or other vulnerable groups		X		The new FFA projects will be identified from the next quarter, the tender process will be launched from April 15
3.1.1.6 Provide training and resources to implement micro-projects to associations that are selected through a clear and transparent LDC tendering process		X		Planned after selection process.
3.1.1.7 Train beneficiary associations on gender approach for inclusive participation and increased female leadership		X		<b>03 training sessions</b> on gender approach and "Positive Masculinity" for CDC members in Mutanda and Bambo Groupement (Birambizo) and CARG members of Ruwenzori. In total, <b>143 participants</b> (99 CDCs Members and 44 CARG Members) received this training.(62 F and 81 M )
3.1.2.1 Support LDCs and local chiefs to establish processes for posting public notices		X		The Support provided by SO3 for this period was focused on the participation of LCDs on monitoring of the implementation of FFW activities, on validating and publishing for the public the lists of FFW beneficiaries

3.1.2.2 Promote Social accountability through Community Score Cards related FFW implementation			X	According the DIP revised, the priority of SIMAMA concerning the local accountability on FFW projects will be focused on Post Distribution Monitoring.
3.1.3.1 Conduct training for the local counterparts of the CARG on the management of land conflict		X		In Lukanga Butembo, the local structures managing land disputes, Local authorities, LDC representatives received a capacity building training focused on land tenure regulations in DRC, land acquisition processes and land conflict management <b>34 participants</b> received this training.
3.1.3.2 Organize a series of dialogues with male and female community leaders and stakeholders on local strategies aimed at improving access to land		X		In Butembo, SIMAMA supported de local coordination meeting to improve dialogue regarding access to land and the involvement of CARG members in managing land issues. This workshop is conducted by the Provincial Ministry in charge of land and UNHABITAT. <b>36 participants</b> benefited this exchange workshop including CARG members and 15 Local ministry representatives.
3.1.3.3 Conduct a review of the types of land conflicts and the frequency and consequences that emerge over the course of a year and hold a meeting with the chefferie CARG and chefferie authorities to develop an action plan		X		According the result of the Local Coordination Meeting improving access to land in Butembo, a review of the types of land conflict will be conducted for the next period in. The local Ministry in charge of land in collaboration with CARG will manage this review. The result of this assessment will be shared to local stakeholders.
3.1.4.1 Support the constitution of Local DRR and EWS-R sub-committees within the LDCs		X		02 news DRR committees in Kitimba and Masereka (Butembo)  Local meeting for revitalization of the 7 EWS sub-committees organized in Birambizo. 07 EWS-R committees (Kibirizi, Kabanda, Kirima, Kishishe, Kilama, Bambo et Bugina) received the tools on collecting data on potential risk and disaster , and supported on developing sharing information mechanism with local authorities, LDCs and community members and the preparedness of communities to identify mitigation measures
3.1.4.2 Organize cascade trainings on disaster risk reduction and EWS-R		X		04 training sessions on EWS-R conducted during this period for DRR Committees, CDCs, and local authorities (01 training in Masereka Butembo and 03 sessions in Birambizo for 4 localities Rwahanga, Kikuku, Katwe, Bianderema and Rwahurukene  In total, 150 participants trained (118

				Birambizo and 32 Butembo)
3.1.4.3 Organize workshop to help community develop DRR and EWS-R plans for responding to food security shocks		X		For this period, 4 workshops were conducted (3 localities in Birambizo: Katwe Byanderema and Rwahurukene and 01 in Masereka, Butembo) to help community develop DRR and EWS-R plans
3.1.4.4 Establish mechanism and procedures for identifying a way to review the effects of the shock and the preparedness of communities to identify future mitigation measures			X	Rescheduled for the next period
<b>IR3.2: Communities reinforce linkages with territory and provincial food security structures</b>				
3.2.1.1 Conduct needs identification and capacity assessment of CARGs	X			NA for this period.
3.2.1.2 Support CARGs at community level on development of action plan	X			According MTE recommendation, the CARG of Bwito (Birambizo) reconstituted and revitalized. A new action Plan developed and validated on January 15 by 27 CARG members in Bwito and Provincial Coordinator of CARG
3.2.1.3 Provide CARGs with processes and skills required for advocacy/lobbying and conflict resolution		X		<b>64</b> CARG members (36 from CARG Bwito and 28 from CARG Ruwenzori in Butembo) trained on advocacy technics and accountability. This training session will help them to be able to plan and conduct advocacy campaign concerning food security and land access issues, and to reinforce the accountability mechanism for regarding their actions with local communities.
3.2.2.1 Provide small grants for CARGs' information sharing activities at Provincial and local level		X		No small grants will be allowed for CARG. The CARGs activities (training, workshop, monitoring visit) are funded and managed directly by Mercy Corps.
3.2.2.2 Sensitize communities regarding the role and responsibilities of CARGs		X		Discussion and sharing information workshop regarding the role and responsibilities of CARGs between small farmers representative (SO1) and CARG members organized in Musienene Butembo. <b>36</b> participants benefited this workshop.
3.2.2.3 Sponsor CARG visits to constituent communities and other initiatives aimed at planning and information-sharing		X		Rescheduled for next quarter
3.2.3.1 Organize CARG quarterly workshops aimed at fostering links between territory and provincial stakeholders and discuss on food security concerns	X			Quarterly workshop for CARG organized in Butembo on February 15, conducted by Provincial CARG. 56 participants benefited this workshop.

				This workshop was focused on exchange and information sharing. The CARG Action Plans shared with Local Technical Partners in order to develop a new collaboration and partnership
3.2.3.2 Support the wide dissemination of provincial agriculture development strategies			X	According the agenda of Ministry of Agriculture and the Provincial CARG Coordinator in North Kivu, this activity will be Rescheduled for the next quarter IY4
3.2.3.3 Support joint monitoring of market trends and its implications on food security			X	Rescheduled for the next quarter IY4
3.2.3.4 Hold a final meeting with the CARGs to review the systems in place and the challenges to identify realistic priorities and appropriate mechanisms for CARGs to function at community and at chefferie and territory level			X	Planned for IY5